UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1992/21/Add.2
18 February 1992

ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH/FRENCH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-eighth session
27 January-6 March 1992
Item 11 (c) of the agenda

COORDINATING ROLE OF THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND MACHINERY DEALING WITH THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 1991/22

Addendum

CONTENTS

Page

I. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENTS

Cameroon .....

II. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Federation - Terre des Hommes .....

Rädda Barnen International .....

GE.92-10756/8685a

I. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENTS

Cameroon

[27 January 1992]
[Original: French]

The Cameroon Government supports the process of strengthening the activities of the Centre for Human Rights. Cameroon was a sponsor of the relevant resolution adopted by the Third Committee at the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

In accordance with resolution 1991/22 of 5 March 1991, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, the proposed strengthening should include an increase in the representation of under-represented groups of States, notably the developing countries, in senior and policy-formulating posts.

II. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Federation - Terre des Hommes

[3 February 1992]
[Original: French]

The International Federation - Terre des Hommes believes that, to strengthen the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, its budget should first be increased significantly. Its staff should also be increased so as to expedite special procedures among other things. While the principle of equitable geographical distribution is of course very important and fair, it should not hide the fact that staff should be appointed firstly on the basis of professional background, competence and ability to perform the duties of the post in question, which is the basis on which appointments are made in the private sector. Within the limits described above, it would also be desirable for the enhanced functioning of the Centre for Human Rights to see more women appointed to posts of responsibility.

The Centre for Human Rights could also improve its cooperation with other United Nations bodies and agencies, particularly in the area of economic, social and cultural rights. It might also consider developing its contacts with non-governmental organizations at a very practical level by, for example, setting up field projects linked with human rights in the broadest sense, which naturally includes the rights of the child.

Rädda Barnen International

[6 February 1992]
[Original: English]

Rädda Barnen would recommend the establishment of a computerized documentation centre of children's issues related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The purpose would be to coordinate information and reports on the implementation of the Convention from Governments, special rapporteurs, United Nations specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Rädda Barnen would suggest that the role of the Centre for Human Rights could be to become the focal point on all aspects of children's rights. It would facilitate the responding to requests from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and others concerned.

Rädda Barnen would also suggest that the Centre for Human Rights start building up the database on children's rights to gain experience on how to coordinate information, create a structure for the database and build networks. This database could then serve as a model for expanding into future databases for other Human Rights Conventions.